

## SENATE BILL NO. 461

INTRODUCED BY STEINBEISSER, BALES, BRUEGGEMAN, KLOCK, LANGE, SMITH

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THE ATTACHMENT OF A RADIO-TRACKING COLLAR TO AT LEAST ONE WOLF IN A PACK THAT IS ACTIVE NEAR LIVESTOCK OR NEAR A POPULATION CENTER; ~~REQUIRING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS PROVIDE RECEIVERS TO A LANDOWNER OR A LANDOWNER'S DESIGNEE, UPON REQUEST, IN AREAS WHERE DEPREDATIONS ARE CHRONIC OR LIKELY;~~ AND AMENDING SECTIONS 81-7-103 AND 81-7-105, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

~~Section 1.~~ Section 81-7-103, MCA, is amended to read:

~~"81-7-103. Administration of funds by department.~~ The department shall administer and expend for predatory animal control all money that is made available to it, including the money allocated for this purpose under 81-7-104 and all money that is made available to the department by appropriations made by the legislature for predatory animal control by the department. The department shall expend the funds for predatory animal control by all effective means responsive to the necessities of control in various areas of the state, including employment of hunters, trappers, and other personnel, procurement of traps, poisons, radio-tracking collars, equipment, and supplies, and payment of bounties in the discretion of the department at those times of the year it considers advisable."

~~Section 2.~~ Section 81-7-105, MCA, is amended to read:

~~"81-7-105. Disposition of proceeds from sale of skins, hides, and specimens -- presenting to museums.~~ Furs, skins, and specimens taken by hunters or trappers shall must be sold by the department. The proceeds from the sales shall must be credited to the state special revenue fund. The proceeds shall must be used to carry out the provisions of 81-7-101 through 81-7-105 and [section 3]. Specimens may be presented free of charge to a state museum or institution."

NEW SECTION. **Section 1. Use of radio-tracking collars for monitoring wolf packs.** (1) As part of a wolf management plan approved by both the department and the department of fish, wildlife, and parks, a

radio-tracking collar must be attached to at least one wolf in each wolf pack that is active near livestock or near a population center IN AREAS WHERE DEPREDACTIONS ARE CHRONIC OR LIKELY.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL EXPEND ONLY THE FEDERAL FUNDS FOR WOLF MANAGEMENT PURPOSES TO FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

(3) THE DEPARTMENT MAY COLLABORATE AND COOPERATE WITH OTHER STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES TO FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

~~(4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE RECEIVERS THAT ARE CAPABLE OF RECEIVING SIGNALS FROM THE RADIO TRACKING COLLARS TO A LANDOWNER OR A LANDOWNER'S DESIGNEE IN AREAS WHERE DEPREDACTIONS ARE CHRONIC OR LIKELY IF REQUESTED BY THE LANDOWNER OR THE LANDOWNER'S DESIGNEE.~~

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 3 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of ~~Title 81, chapter 7, part 1~~ TITLE 87, CHAPTER 5, PART 1, and the provisions of ~~Title 81, chapter 7, part 1~~ TITLE 87, CHAPTER 5, PART 1, apply to [section 3 1].

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